

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication apparatus comprising:

a communication unit that communicates with other communication apparatus via a communication network;

5 a detector that detects a communication status of the communication unit during a period of time at least from a time when a call is issued to the other communication apparatus by the communication apparatus until a time when a response to the call from the other communication apparatus is received by the  
10 communication apparatus;

a light emitting device configured to emit light in a plurality of light emitting states that are visually discernible; and

a controller that controls the light emitting state of the  
15 light emitting device in accordance with the communication status detected by the detector.

2. The communication apparatus according to claim 1 further comprises an operation input unit to which a user inputs an operation,

20 wherein the communication unit issues a call in accordance with the operation input to the operation unit.

3. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detector continuously detects the communication status, and

wherein the controller continuously controls the light  
25 emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with

the communication status detected by the detector.

4. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detector detects a signal input to the communication unit and determines a type of the signal, and

5 wherein the controller controls the light emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with the type of the signal determined by the detector.

5. The communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the detector determines the type of the signal by detecting a  
10 frequency of the signal.

6. The communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the  
15 light emitting device in accordance with the type of signal determined by the detector.

7. The communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of brightness states that are visually discernible, and

20 wherein the controller controls the brightness state of the light emitting device in accordance with the type of signal determined by the detector.

8. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detector detects a signal input to the communication unit  
25 and determines a signal level of the signal, and

wherein the controller controls the light emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with the signal level of the signal determined by the detector.

9. The communication apparatus according to claim 8, wherein  
5 the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the light emitting device in accordance with the signal level of the signal determined by the detector.

10 10. The communication apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of brightness states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the brightness state of the light emitting device in accordance with the signal level  
15 of the signal determined by the detector.

11. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detector detects at least one of a low group and a high group of a DTMF signal input to the communication unit and determines a type of the DTMF signal, and

20 wherein the controller controls the light emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with the type of the DTMF signal determined by the detector.

12. The communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the detector determines the type of the DTMF signal by detecting  
25 a frequency of the DTMF signal input to the communication unit.

13. The communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the light emitting device in accordance with the type of the DTMF signal determined by the detector.

14. The communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of brightness states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the brightness state of the light emitting device in accordance with the type of the DTMF signal determined by the detector.

15. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the light emitting device in accordance with the communication status detected by the detector.

16. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of brightness states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the brightness state of the light emitting device in accordance with the communication status detected by the detector.

17. The communication apparatus according to claim 1 further

comprising a printing unit that prints out content describing the communication status and the light emitting state corresponding to the communication status.

18. The communication apparatus according to claim 1 further  
5 comprising a setting input unit to which a user inputs setting information for setting a light emitting state corresponding to the communication status,

wherein the controller changes the light emitting state corresponding to the communication status in accordance with the  
10 setting information when the setting information is input to the setting input unit.

19. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detector determines a communication speed of the communication by the communication unit, and

15 wherein the controller controls the light emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with the communication speed determined by the detector.

20. The communication apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of  
20 color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the light emitting device in accordance with the communication speed determined by the detector.

21. The communication apparatus according to claim 19, wherein  
25 the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of

brightness states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the brightness state of the light emitting device in accordance with the communication speed determined by the detector.

5 22. The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the communication unit communicates image data.

23. The communication apparatus according to claim 22, wherein  
... the communication unit communicates facsimile data as the image data.

10 24. The communication apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the detector determines a resolution of the image data, and

wherein the controller controls the light emitting state of the light emitting device in accordance with the resolution of the image data determined by the detector.

15 25. The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of color states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the color state of the light emitting device in accordance with the resolution of the  
20 image data determined by the detector.

26. The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the light emitting device is configured to take a plurality of brightness states that are visually discernible, and

wherein the controller controls the brightness state of  
25 the light emitting device in accordance with the resolution of

the image data determined by the detector.

27. A facsimile machine comprising:

a communication unit that communicates a facsimile data  
with other facsimile machine via a public switched telephone  
5 network;

a detector that detects a signal sound input to the  
communication unit and determines a type of the signal sound  
during a period of time at least from a time when a call is issued  
to the other facsimile machine by the facsimile machine until  
10 a time when a response to the call from the other facsimile machine  
is received by the facsimile machine;

a light emitting device configured to emit light in a  
plurality of light emitting states that are visually  
discernible; and

15 a controller that controls the light emitting state of the  
light emitting device in accordance with the type of the signal  
sound determined by the detector.